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TWELVE PAGES

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1899.

A CABAL OF FAVORITES.

THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT has al-
ready treated the Coghlan incident as a
very humorous, but trivial affair, as it
is in itself; but a more serious and im-
portant aspect has been forced upon it
by the pompous pub-funcs of Imperial
punctilio who sit in perpetual session
as the masters of the morals and man-
ners of men, especially common men,
in their due humility of speech and de-
meanor toward their august rulers (?)
in this and other countries. The German
emperor and his flunkies, always on the
lookout for mocks, slights and other
disrespect toward the preposterous
Imperial majesty affected by the Crazy
Kaiser, at once took it in high dudgeon
that a mere American citizen, and a
Captain in the navy at that, should
dare to speak of his Prussian super-ex-
altedness other than in "a bondsman's
key, with whispering humbleness," and
complained at once that Captain Cog-
hlan had committed "LESE MAJESTY"
against silly Billy, who supposes that
he has personal jurisdiction, not only
of all this world, but of the universe.
Mr. Hay, the chief clerk of the Presi-
dent in the State department, when ap-
proached on the subject, at once pool-
poohed the matter as a bit of private
social conduct and levity, which might
be in very bad taste, but which could
not, in this country, rise to an affair of
state, and which in no case did he have
anything to do with; though it might
be a matter calling for discipline by
the Navy department.

To make the story short, the matter
was referred to one Long, chief clerk of
the President in the Navy department,
and his temporary appointee, and this
clerk took upon himself to bring Cap-
tain Coghlan into inquisition about
matters which our laws flatly utterly
provide for, as being beneath its notice;
and this navy clerk, Long, assuming
absolute and arbitrary jurisdiction
where he had none at all, actually
tried, convicted, sentenced and reprim-
anded the gallant commander of the
Raleigh, and will relieve one of the
heroes of Manila of his command. And
for what? We dare Mr. Long to give it
a name, or find any authority for his
insolent interference with the private
conduct of an American citizen (none
the less a citizen because an heroic offi-
cer), and who was no more responsible
to the German Kaiser, or Mr. Hohen-
zollern, than to any other German or
foreign citizen for what he may have
said.

Are we to allow any foreign poten-
tate to extend his despotism of lese
majesty to this country? Or is the will
of such potentate, rather than ours, to
be recognized by our civil servants, and
obsequiously enforced by them upon
any portion of our citizens, and espe-
cially upon the officers of our gallant
Navy and Army? We protest in the
name of liberty and the American peo-
ple; and we say that if any of us, in or
out of office, please to say, "Damn the
Kaiser!" or even cry "Damn the Presi-
dent and his clerk Long!" nobody leg-
ally, from the President down has
anything to do with it; and if any of
our servants, in either case, presume
thereof, he abuses and misuses his little
brief authority in gross violation of
personal right and liberty that should
be promptly punished to the extent of
our penalties for high treason.

The course of Long toward Captain
Coghlan marks a distinct and very
alarming stage of the development of
Imperialism at Washington. Free-
speech is to be interdicted and punish-
ed at the will of an usurping depart-
ment clerk! European Imperialism is
extended over us and enforced under
the plea of international courtesy and
the laws of diplomacy. The little Mack
Cabinet of irresponsible clerks which

former Presidents only used to obtain
information of the condition of the var-
ious departments, without requiring
frequent formal reports in writing from
their head clerks, is now becoming, un-
der this administration, a threatening
and formidable combination, wholly un-
warranted in law, and clothed by the
President with power and authority,
jointly and severally, which the law
only entrusts to him; and which he
cannot confer or transfer on others,
without betrayal of his high trust. The
fact, however, is patent: that Hanna-
McKinley has drawn around him in a
so-called "Cabinet," a set of official ap-
pointees, political minions and personal
favorites, who constitute a power be-
hind the throne, an imperium in imperio,
an unconstitutional Privy Council; and
though utterly unknown to the law, in-
vested with unlimited power by the
President, not only to determine all
Federal and international questions,
but to do as they please in all internal
and departmental matters, within or
without the laws, protected by Presi-
dential allowance and favor in all their
abuses, malfeasances, tyrannies and
usurpations.

What remedy, what recourse, under
this government of favorites, and this
double game of throwing off Presiden-
tial responsibility and authority on
minions, who have none of either in
law, and who are further screened by
a favoritism as obstinate as it is un-
reasoning? Blind and ignorant parti-
zany accepts the situation as all right,
because the President authorizes, and
yet is not responsible for it, as his sub-
ordinates, or the subordinates of sub-
ordinates, and so on ad infinitum, are
the ultimate culprits!

The annals of royal rule record much
abomination and atrocity; but the
worst periods in every country were
when the Kings or Queens were but
the figure-heads behind which despic-
able favorites wrought their work of
personal ambition, greed, revenge, mal-
ice, tyranny and baseness in an insolent
sense of security and impunity.

RESPECT THE LAW.

The Richmond Dispatch, in the main,
seems to agree heartily and fully with
THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT that it is
for "the party to decide" authoritatively
all disputes arising within the party
as to men and measures; but it also
seems to consider that it may be pro-
per or necessary for the Democratic
State Committee, on the appeal, or
suggestion, of the May conference to
call a State convention this year, either
to nominate a candidate for the U. S.
Senate, or for that and other matters
relating to the election of such a can-
didate. There we differ with our con-
temporary, if we apprehend its mean-
ing.

At this stage of the matter, we are
confident that this May conference has
no right beyond the expression of an
opinion for the people of the party, and
perhaps to go so far as to advise and
urge the people of the party for or
against this or that; but no right at
all to attempt to direct the party
through any of its official representa-
tives toward any action at all. We
think that would be an unfair and un-
authorized use of the influence of the
conference, which is called merely for
the expression of opinion. In this it
may appeal to the people in their pri-
mary action; but to attempt more, or
go further, is beyond what was pro-
posed and, so to speak, taking "snap
judgment" without notice or any pro-
per warrant.

The conference, thus, may very well
suggest that the people, in their action,
by mass-meeting, by a primary elec-
tion, or a delegated convention, may
name, instruct, or request, the candi-
date or nominee of every county to
vote, if elected, for this or that man,
in caucus and election; but the exist-
ing law and all the circumstances for-
bid the party to act as a whole in an
unauthorized and formal nomination
of Senator, either through its State or-
ganization or otherwise.

Each constituency have their plain
powers, both conferred and reserved,
to instruct their representative in the
General Assembly to vote as they wish;
but to go further, as a party, as if the
constitution had been, in effect, amend-
ed, is at least unseemly, to say the best
for it, and it may easily provoke the
self-respect of the legislators as a body.

Go slow, gentlemen. Be within what
is written. Assume nothing, and re-
spect the law, as it is, until it be al-
tered.

The position of THE VIRGINIAN-
PILOT, as an open and strenuous op-
ponent of imperialism and all that it
implies, is well understood; but it is by
no means an advocate, or even a de-
fender, of a propaganda which would
force itself and its papers and argu-
ments upon the actual combatants in
the field, as if to disaffect our own
troops and inflame and encourage the
armed enemies of the United States in
the field. We are decidedly of opinion
that it was unwise and very indiscreet,
even considered only with reference to
the points of honor, policy and right,
in dispute, for Mr. Edward Atkinson
and other anti-expansionists and anti-
imperialists, to appeal to the men in
arms, on either side, to consider the
argument of the matter. That is not
within their jurisdiction, and it is cruel
and unjust to attempt to involve them
in a discussion where it is their only
act as ordered,—not to argue and
decide.

Let the people of the United States,
not under arms nor orders, consider the
course of the present administration, so
far as it affects right and principle,
without involving the soldiers of either
side. We condemn the appeal, from
any side, to men whose duty is to obey,
to do or die—not to argue.

THE EXPIRING TORCH OF LIB- ERTY.

The simple truth of the matter is
that, if we really intend to enter upon
a career of territorial expansion, with
colonial dependencies and foreign con-
qu沿海, we may as well acknowledge to
ourselves the necessity of acting upon
practical and common sense lines.
These "sullen, silent peoples" are not
to be reformed by evangelical methods.
—Washington Post.

At the conclusion of the last century
and the beginning of this, the Barbary
States, on the Mediterranean Sea, along
the North Coast of Africa, constituted
a Piratical Power that was the ter-
ror of Christendom, as it had been for
centuries. In all the past history of the
world, the Barbary epoch on the Me-
diterranean alone supplies illustrative
parallels of the career upon which the
United States has entered via the war
with Spain, and egged on by an Al-
gerine war department, a fanatical
Mahdi in Hanna, the Turk of politics,
all inflamed by the accursed thirst for
gold, and the whole mad movement de-
fended and encouraged by a press
which teaches contempt of all better
instincts of man and defiance of all
the principles of enlightened liberty and
the teachings of the Christian religion,
in accordance with infernal doctrines
of which the above clipping is but a
faint hint, though sulphurous enough
to betray its origin.

Are the Dark Ages returning? Is our
Day of enlightenment going out before
the coming of another Night of vi-
olence, lust and rapine? It seems so
when the torch of Liberty illuminating
the world is visibly expiring where it
was first lighted.

The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot asserts
that Grover Cleveland was not a Demo-
cratic President. Mr. Cleveland was
nominated and elected by the Demo-
cratic party in 1884, renominated in 1888,
and again in 1892. The party sampled
his Democracy, and in 1888 and in 1892
the Southern Democrats were particu-
larly vociferous in demanding his re-
nomination. If Mr. Cleveland was not
a Democrat then, the Democratic party
perpetrated a gigantic fraud upon the
country when it set him up as its can-
didate. Mr. Cleveland would doubtless
consent to make the race again upon
any of the Democratic platforms adopt-
ed prior to 1896, but we are informed
that the advocate of what used to be
considered Democracy will not be ac-
corded a hearing in the next Democratic
National Convention. Perhaps the Vir-
ginian-Pilot will admit that the Demo-
cratic party has changed somewhat.—
Washington Post.

If our contemporary had only quoted
the editorial in which we assert and
prove that Mr. Cleveland "was not a
Democratic President," we should be
content to say no more about it; yet
even as it is, we rise only to remark
that during his second term he fought
the Democratic party and its plat-
form with all his might on its chief
principles and policies,—and that he did
this though they were embodied in the
platform upon which he was nominated
and elected.

The following is an extract from the
decree of divorce between Mr. Henry
T. Sloane and his wife:

And it is further ordered, adjudged
and decreed that it shall be lawful for
said plaintiff, Henry T. Sloane, to marry
again in the same manner as though
the defendant, Jessie A. Sloane, were
actually dead, but it shall not be law-
ful for the said Jessie A. Sloane to
marry again until the said plaintiff,
Henry T. Sloane, is actually dead, but
the remarriage of the parties to this
action is not hereby prohibited.

Nevertheless, on the same day the
decree was issued, and within a few
hours after it had been signed, in con-
tempt of the provision quoted, and in
contempt of the court, the lady and
Perry Belmont were married, or went
through the marriage ceremony, on a
license issued in due form of law, and
by the official sanction of a doctor of
divinity. The marriage, we assume,
is not only voidable, but null and void;
and the clerk who issued the license
and the divine who performed the cere-
mony are in flagrant contempt of the
court who decreed the divorce.

At a grand mass-meeting in Chicago
last Sunday, to protest against the im-
perial policy of this maladministration,
and in which Bishops of Churches,
Presidents of universities and preachers
and professors were prominent as offi-
cers and speakers, most decided resolu-
tions against the policy were adopted
by a large and enthusiastic vote;
though a minority was present consist-
ing of a lot of fellows who revealed
their politics, breeding and animus by
greeting the speakers with cries of
"treason," "you are a liar," and other
elegant interpolations. Free-speech, it
seems, is incompatible with Imperial-
ism, and one or other must go. Which,
ye sovereigns of America—which?

It is hard for the Democrats who
love not silver to reconcile themselves
to the renomination of Mr. Bryan. They
try to console themselves from time to
time by inventing and revealing dark
plots to prevent that renomination. The
Rusting of marines; and we presume that
the Democratic "plots" against Bryan
are just about as real as the Crime of
1873.—N. Y. Sun.

There is no question that all attempts
to prevent the renomination of Mr.
Bryan will prove to be marcs' nests,
with bad and unhatchable eggs in
them; but if the plots against Mr. Bryan
are as real as the crime of 1873, then
it behooves the Democracy to be on
its guard against them. "Eternal Vig-
ilance is the price of liberty."

The widowhood of Mrs. Perry Bel-
mont was one of the most abbreviated
affairs on record.—Washington Post.

But suppose the court which divorced
Mr. Sloane from her at his suit, and
forbade her to remarry, unless she mar-
ried her former husband, should now
arrest her and Mr. Belmont for con-

tempt, declare their marriage null and
void, and fine and imprison both—put-
ting them in separate cells at Sing
Sing? That would cause the bridal or
wedding song to be on the other side
of the mouths of the so-called "Mr. and
Mrs. Perry Belmont," and administer a
deserved rebuke to Imperial profligacy.

Tyranny is ingenious, sometimes, and
particularly so when it has to deal with
brave, free and intelligent men. Hence
the cunning pretenses prepared to en-
slave us upon grounds of interstate
commerce, postal power, protection of
Federal property, &c. The judiciary
has already established tyranny by in-
junction, a process for contempt, and
defies all control. Now the Federal
State Department has invented govern-
ment by diplomacy, international cour-
tesy, &c.

It is with pleasure that we see that
the Atlanta Constitution adopts our
view of the great significance and im-
portance, as a Democratic victory, of
the re-election of Carter Harrison to be
Mayor of Chicago. It is doubly grati-
fying to note that the Washington Post
disagrees with this view, and especially
because so many Republicans, as it al-
leges, voted for Harrison. So much
greater, then, the Democratic victory,
which captures so many of the enemy.

"Bryan talks too much," says all the
Mammonnists and their organs. Too
much for them, no doubt; but he can
only tell half the truth about the in-
iquities of their party and its adminis-
tration; yet that is so mighty that it
will prevail next year. "Magna est
veritas, et prevalebit." Yes; even the
least bit of it will prevail a bit:
"While error, wounded, writhes in pain,
And dies amid her worshippers."

Will somebody please disentangle the
Belmonts? They seem perrylously
wiped out in their christening: There
is O. H. Perry Belmont, Sr., then comes
O. H. Perry Belmont, Jr., and then fol-
lows a crowd of Perry Belmonts, \$1
Perry Belmonts, \$10 Perry Belmonts,
Bryan Perry Belmonts, Croker Perry
Belmonts, and other hap-hazard or
extra-hazardous Perrylous Belmonts.
Which is which?

The Washington Post has assumed
the office of Censor of the Press, and
in every issue some or all of its con-
temporaries are ordered "to drop" this,
that, or t'other, or "to quit" talking so
much beef and Alger, &c. It is not
observed, as yet, that the Post has
been actually invested with power, civil
or military, to enforce its injunctions;
but it evidently expects such power, if
imperialism is to flourish.

Everybody must rejoice at the pros-
pect of peace in the Philippines, no
matter who is wrong, or who right,
about the nature of the war. "Inter
armis, leges silent;" the noise and the
shouting allow neither law, reason, nor
mercy to be heard. With peace, the
second sober thought may at least let
justice speak.

What is to be done about it by the
Hanna-McKinley Imperialists, since it
is definitely announced that in the di-
vision of China the United States is
to get nothing—not even a tea-set, or a
punch-bowl? Will there be a smashing
of China, in revenge and resentment,
by this imperial government at Wash-
ington?

Just think of it! Michigan, it is said,
is to send Alger to the U. S. Senate,
to join Hanna, Quay and Co. The sug-
gestion is an emetic—worse than the
smell of that army beef, embalmed,
high and of asserted putridity.

Luzon, of which Manila is the prin-
cipal city and port, is only one of the
1,500 Islands, more or less, comprised in
the Philippine Archipelago, and it is
not yet subdued. Ominous name:
"Lose on!"

If the Philippines are fired of war,
it is much to their honor. Our own vol-
unteers have exhibited no little of the
same tired feeling, in their desire to
return home.

"Mr. Hanna opposes bossism," says
the Washington Post. Yes; any boss-
ism, but his own, which "Bears like the
Turk, no brother near the throne."

"To run-a-muck, free, or run a muck-
cart, under military orders?" that is
the question in the Philippines.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE PARTIES OF LINCOLN AND HANNA.

But it is well to fully estimate and
know the power with which the people
have to contend. Organized Wealth is
the owner of a great political organiza-
tion, and many Republicans fail to
draw the distinction between the Re-
publicanism of New York, and the de-
graded Republicanism of a Hanna. It has
a national administration behind it.
It owns many of the courts of the land.
It can dictate legislation and oftentimes
can dictate adjudications. It reaches
into, owns and controls the great cities
of the country to such an extent that
it has come to pass that with those in
political control in those cities, Repub-
licanism and Democracy have alike
ceased to have a meaning, and the only
effort is by those in control to become
the wards and the beneficiaries of the
enemies of the people and of a free gov-
ernment. There is no difference between
a Croker and a Platt, between a Roose-
velt and a Van Wyck. No faith and no
dependence are to be placed upon the
professions of those controlling the po-
litical machinery of New York, whether
they call themselves Republicans or
Democrats. They are all tarred with
the same brush. No people's adminis-
tration will ever come into power because
of the will of any part of New York
aristocracy or New York politicians;
and our hope in the Empire State
must lie in the ability of the hundreds
of thousands of honest, patriotic citi-
zens of the city and State to relegate
these elements to the rear. The hope of
success lies in the country outside the
great cities and success to be attained
must be attained in the face of the op-
position of corrupt and debased munic-
ipal political conditions.

VIRGINIAN-PILOT'S HOME STUDY CIRCLE

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DIRECTED BY PROF. SEYMOUR EATON.

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by mail, will be held at their close as a basis for the granting of Certificates.

POPULAR STUDIES IN LITERATURE.

XI.—DE QUINCEY.

EARLY PROSE MASTERPIECES.
BY HATTIE TYNG GRISWOLD.
(Author of "Home Life of Great Au-
thors," etc.)

That opulent period of English litera-
ture in which Thomas de Quincey did
his brilliant work is enriched by many
of the best-known names in the lan-
guage. His life was a long one, and
throughout its whole extent great men
thronged the avenues of letters. He was
born in 1785, Scott in 1771, Wordsworth
in 1770, Charles Lamb and Landor in
1775. All were doing their best work
in his youth. He saw the dawn and the
noontide splendor of Scott's unrivaled
genius; he was the first man to toast
Wordsworth as a great poet; he watch-
ed the meteor flight of Byron and the
searing of the skylark Shelley; Carlyle
flamed through his sky; Ruskin lighted
ing so lavishly laid out in his descrip-
tive writing, of the fervor of his spirit,
his deep earnestness and moral enthu-
siasm, there is here no space to speak,
but among the acknowledged master-
pieces of literature his earlier books will
always hold their place.

We must now speak of another, not
altogether unlike him in descriptive
power and faultless diction.
THOMAS DE QUINCEY, MAN AND
WRITER.

The childhood and youth of Thomas de
Quincey are described by himself in so
fascinating a manner that they seem
to stand for a large portion of his life,
to assume unusual prominence, to over-
shadow to a certain extent the years of
his maturity, which are not so minutely
narrated. At 6 years of age he lost his
favorite sister by death, and he gives a
long and elaborate description of the
effect produced upon him by that event.



THOMAS DE QUINCEY.

his Seven Lamps before his dazzled
eyes; Dickens marched with his won-
derous procession of actors across the
stage—~~which he had seen~~—Tennyson's
songs sounded in his ears their entranc-
ing melodies; Thackeray drew forth
his smiles and tears; even George Eliot
had begun her marvelous work before
his death and Matthew Arnold had his
foot on the ladder of fame. There were
also golden constellations of lesser
lights in his sky. Sydney Smith, Haz-
litt, Jeffrey, Coleridge, George Grote,
Hallam and Thomas Arnold shine like
points of light in the long stretch of
his years. It would be wearisome to
enumerate all of even the first-class men
who were his contemporaries.

Among the great prose masterpieces
of his day were Scott's "Antiquary,"
Carlyle's "French Revolution," Mac-
aulay's "History of England," Rus-
kin's "Modern Painters," Dickens's
"David Copperfield" and Thackeray's
"Vanity Fair." The "Antiquary" is
perhaps the most perfect of the novel
and key novels, but stands only as a type
of their supreme excellence, as do the
others named as representative books
of their writers.

Of the lurid splendors of the "French
Revolution" the world may have grown
somewhat weary, yet that great prose
poem has on the whole stood well the
test of time. Presuming one to know
the outline facts of that great eventful
period, there is no writer who can so
make it live before the reader's eyes as
Carlyle. The revolution, which he says
was a truth, though a truth clad in
hell-fire, has found no more eloquent
chronicler than he.

Macaulay's "England" was much
scouted at by certain critics in his day.
Even Carlyle advised an invalid friend
to read Macaulay's "History" as any
other new novel. Yet it was more
praised than derided, and by equally
able men. Its incomparable style will
insure it interested readers while men
love the flow and rhythm of majestic
periods.

In "David Copperfield" Dickens
reached perhaps his high-water mark
and gave to the world one of its best
beloved novels. If "Black House" and
"A Tale of Two Cities" are more ad-
mired by many readers, the heart is
touched more deeply by the history of
Little Emily. The reverse is true of
"Vanity Fair." It is not loved, but
given the tribute of admiration, while
"The Newcomes" appeals to the foun-
tain of tears like Dickens' early work.
Mr. Peggoty and Col. Newcome hold
the memory together, and will not be
effaced.

Of the charm of Ruskin's musically
modulated sentences, of the rich color-

(Continued on Fifth Page.)